JOSHUA WILLIAMSON ANDREA MILANA LEE LOUGHRIDGE

G.I. JOE

image

#20

ENERGON UNIVERSE

CODENAME:

G.I. JOE

[MISSION LOG [04.020.01]]

LEAD OPERATIVES:

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
[WRITER]

ANDREA MILANA
[ARTIST]

LEE LOUGHRIDGE
[COLORIST]

RUS WOOTON
[LETTERER]

COVER SUPPORT:

TOM REILLY

JOSHUA CASSARA & ROMULO FAJARDO JR.

BEN OLIVER

TONČI ZONJIĆ

JORGE CORONA & MIKE SPICER

ANDREA MILANA

LUCAS MEYER

GROUND SUPPORT:

BEN ABERNATHY
[EDITOR]

ANDRES JUAREZ
[PUBLICATION DESIGN]

ABIGAIL LEE
[PRODUCTION]

SPECIAL THANKS TO HASBRO'S ED LANE, KELLY ROSE JOHNSON, LINDA LEE & TAYLA REO FOR THEIR INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE.

Licensed by: Hasbro

FOR SKYBOUND ENTERTAINMENT

ROBERT KIRKMAN
CHAIRMAN

DAVID ALPERT
CEO

SEAN MACKIEWICZ
SVP, PUBLISHER

ANDRES JUAREZ
CREATIVE DIRECTOR, EDITORIAL

ARUNE SINGH
VP, BRAND, EDITORIAL

SHANNON MEEHAN
SR. PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

ALEX ANTONE
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

BEN ABERNATHY
EXECUTIVE EDITOR

DIEGS LOPEZ
SR. EDITOR

NACHIE MARSHAM
SR. EDITOR

CAITLIN CHAPPELL
ASSISTANT EDITOR

BLAKE KOBASHIGAWA
SR. DIRECTOR, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, EDITORIAL

JILLIAN CRAB
ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR, EDITORIAL

CJ HAN
PRODUCTION ARTIST

ABIGAIL LEE
PRODUCTION ARTIST

RICHARD MERCADO
PRODUCTION ARTIST

ALEX HARGETT
DIRECTOR OF BRAND, EDITORIAL

ANA ESCALERA
BRAND MANAGER, EDITORIAL

EV CLEMENTS
BRAND SPECIALIST, EDITORIAL

ANNA GEORGE
BRAND COORDINATOR, EDITORIAL

KHRISTIAN OSUNA
BRAND SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR, EDITORIAL

NATHAN VELARDI
BRAND COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR, EDITORIAL

GREG FOREMAN
SR. CROWDFUNDING MANAGER

DAN PETERSEN
SR. DIRECTOR, PUBLISHING OPERATIONS

FOREIGN RIGHTS & LICENSING INQUIRIES:
FOREIGNLICENSING@SKYBOUND.COM

SKYBOUND.COM

FOR IMAGE COMICS, INC:

ROBERT KIRKMAN
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

ERIK LARSEN
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

TODD MCFARLANE
PRESIDENT

MARC SILVESTRI
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

JIM VALENTINO
VICE PRESIDENT

ERIC STEPHENSON
PUBLISHER / CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER

IMAGECOMICS.COM

G.I. JOE #20. MARCH 2026. PUBLISHED BY IMAGE COMICS, INC. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION:PO BOX 14457, PORTLAND, OR 97293. G.I. JOE AND HASBRO AND ALL RELATED TRADEMARKS AND LOGOS ARE TRADEMARKS OF HASBRO, INC. ©2026 HASBRO. IMAGE COMICS® AND ITS LOGOS ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHTS OF IMAGE COMICS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT FOR SHORT EXCERPTS FOR REVIEW PURPOSES) WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF IMAGE COMICS, INC. ALL NAMES, CHARACTERS, EVENTS AND LOCALES IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE ENTIRELY FICTIONAL. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS (LIVING OR DEAD), EVENTS OR PLACES, WITHOUT SATIRIC INTENT, IS COINCIDENTAL. DIGITAL EDITION.

NEVER TOOK YOU FOR ONE OF MAYHEM'S STOOGES, SCRAP-IRON.
DON'T GET CUTE, TRAKKER.
I'M AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR. I GO WHERE THE MONEY TAKES ME.
AND RIGHT NOW THE MONEY HAS BROUGHT ME AND MY BIG $@! TRUCK TO YOU.
WELL, YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO BROUGHT A RIDE TO THE RACETRACK.
BEEP

VROOOOM!

HERE WE GO. MAYHEM WAS RIGHT ABOUT YOU. DO WHAT YOU **ALWAYS** DO.

RUN FROM A FIGHT!

YOU WANT ME?

CHASE ME, #@&$#.

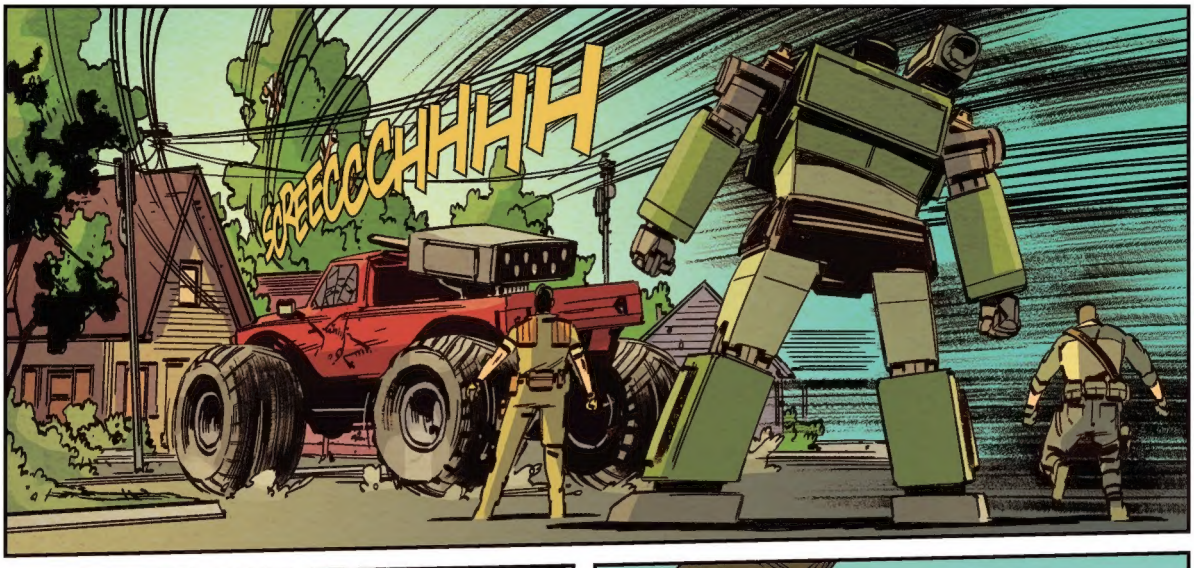
SLAM-VROOOM

SON OF A--

SCREEEE--
VRROOOM
DAMN, HE'S FAST.
GO AHEAD, SCRAP-IRON. I DARE YOU.
BUT I GOT MY OWN WAY OF CATCHING UP.
CLICK
THHOSH!
PLEASE.
HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED YET...
BEEP.
WHAT'S YOURS IS MINE.
BEEP. BEEP. BEEP.

BEEP
KKZZZTT
WHOOSH
NOT MY BABIES...
BOOM!
CRASH!
HA. THAT WILL HOLD HIM OFF FOR--
OH NO.
SCREEEEEEE
CRAP.
GOT YA NOW, SMARTIE PANTS!
WRRROOMMMM

CRASH
FINE! THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT TO PLAY IT?
I WILL RAIN DOWN MISSILES ON THIS WHOLE DAMN CITY TO TAKE YOU ALL OUT!
I DON'T CARE HOW MANY CARS SHOW UP TO SAVE YOU!
LONG TIME, NO SEE, SCRAP-IRON. I STILL OWE YOU FOR SHOOTING ME DOWN...
KHEE KO KO KHAH KHEE
NEVER MIND.
MAYHEM DOESN'T PAY ENOUGH FOR GIANT ROBOTS!


GREECCHHHH

SHOULD WE FOLLOW HIM?
NORMALLY, I'D SAY YES.

BUT I HAVE A FEELING IF WE DID, WE'D NEVER FIND YOUR FRIEND AGAIN.

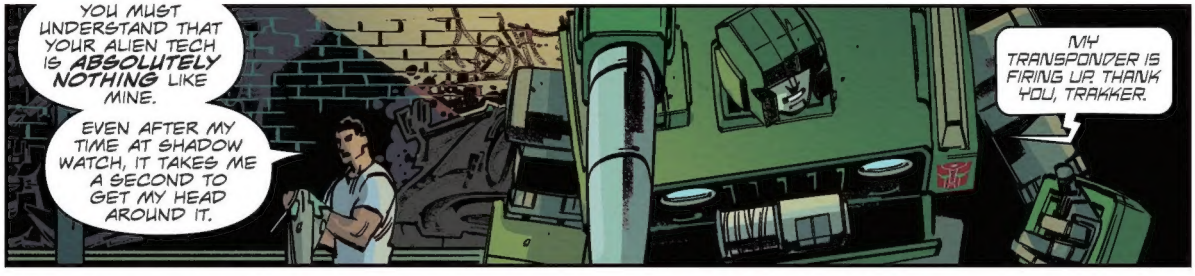
BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO BE FOUND!

THEN MAYBE DON'T BE RACING IN THE STREETS?
I TOLD YOU NOT TO TELL ANYONE YOU KNOW ME!

IS THAT ANY WAY TO SAY, "THANK YOU FOR SAVING MY LIFE"?
SOUNDS LIKE YOU OWE US A FAVOR NOW, MATT.

WHAT KIND OF FAVOR?

SORRY I DIDN'T CATCH THIS BEFORE, HOUND.

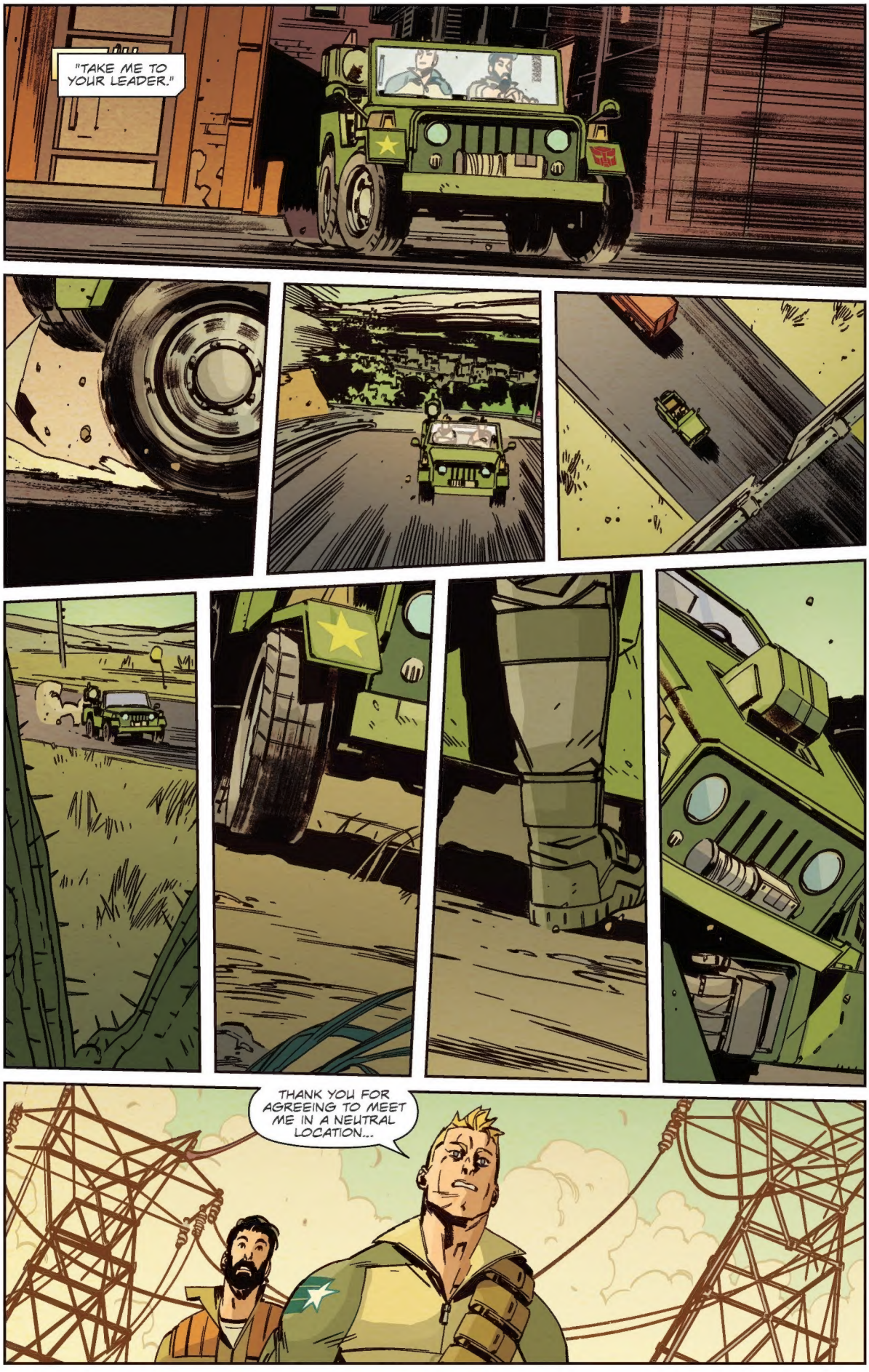

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR ALIEN TECH IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING LIKE MINE.
EVEN AFTER MY TIME AT SHADOW WATCH, IT TAKES ME A SECOND TO GET MY HEAD AROUND IT.
MY TRANSPONDER IS FIRING UP. THANK YOU, TRAKKER.

SO, YOU'RE GOING BACK INTO HIDING AGAIN.
CLUTCH TOLD ME A LOT ABOUT YOU, TRAKKER. I'VE READ YOUR FILE. YOU'D BE AN AMAZING ASSET TO THE JOES.
I'M FLATTERED, DUKE. BUT SOMETHING SCRAP-IRON SAID ABOUT MAYHEM GOT UNDER MY SKIN A BIT.

I'M DONE RUNNING.

OKAY, SO WHAT NOW?

YOU GOOD TO GO, HOUND?
MY TRANSPONDER IS ALREADY PINGING WITH THE LOCATION OF THE AUTOBOTS...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ABOUT TO SAY THIS, BUT...


"TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER."
THANK YOU FOR AGREEING TO MEET ME IN A NEUTRAL LOCATION...

OPTIMUS PRIME.

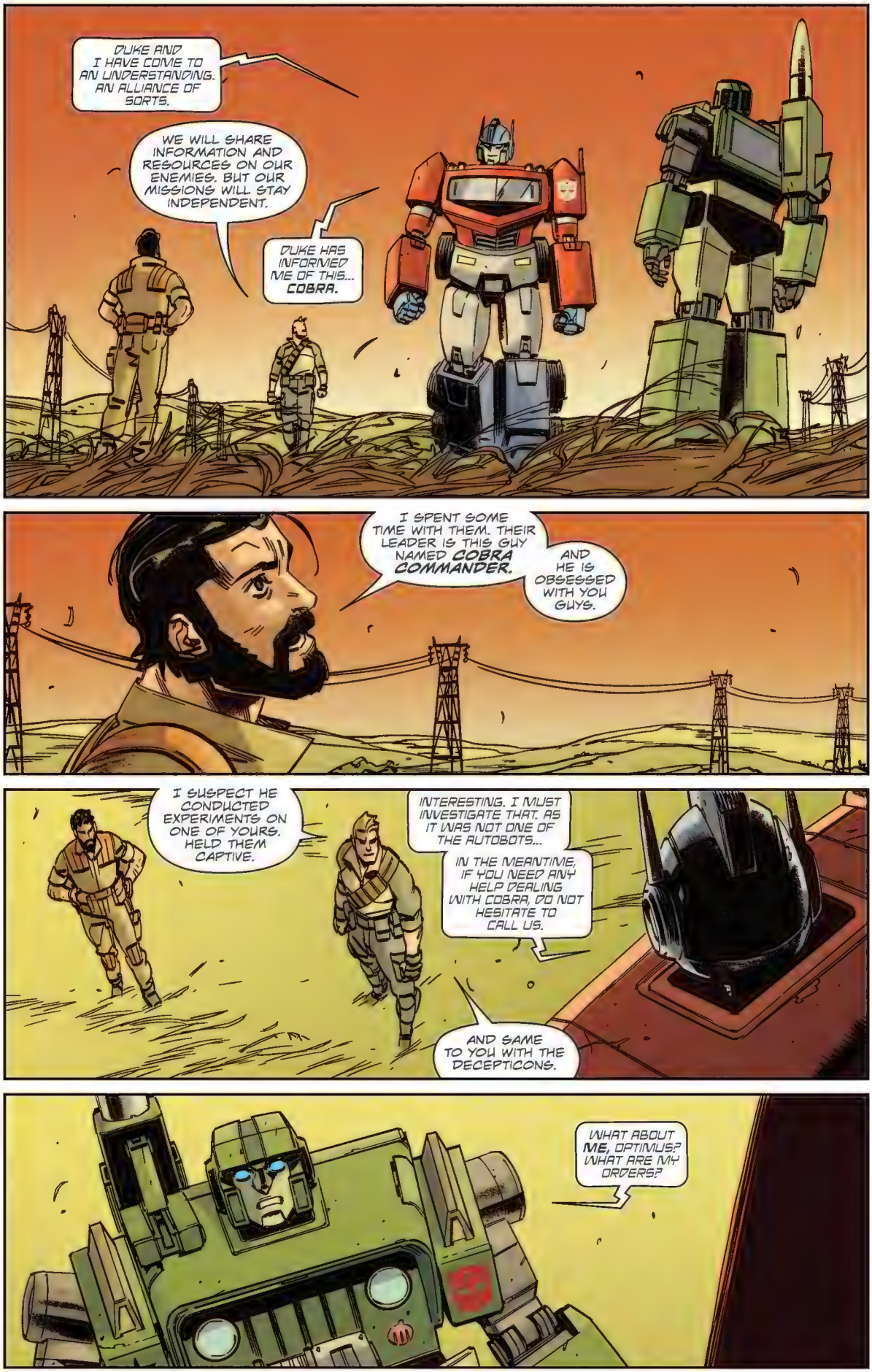
I AM PRIME NO LONGER.

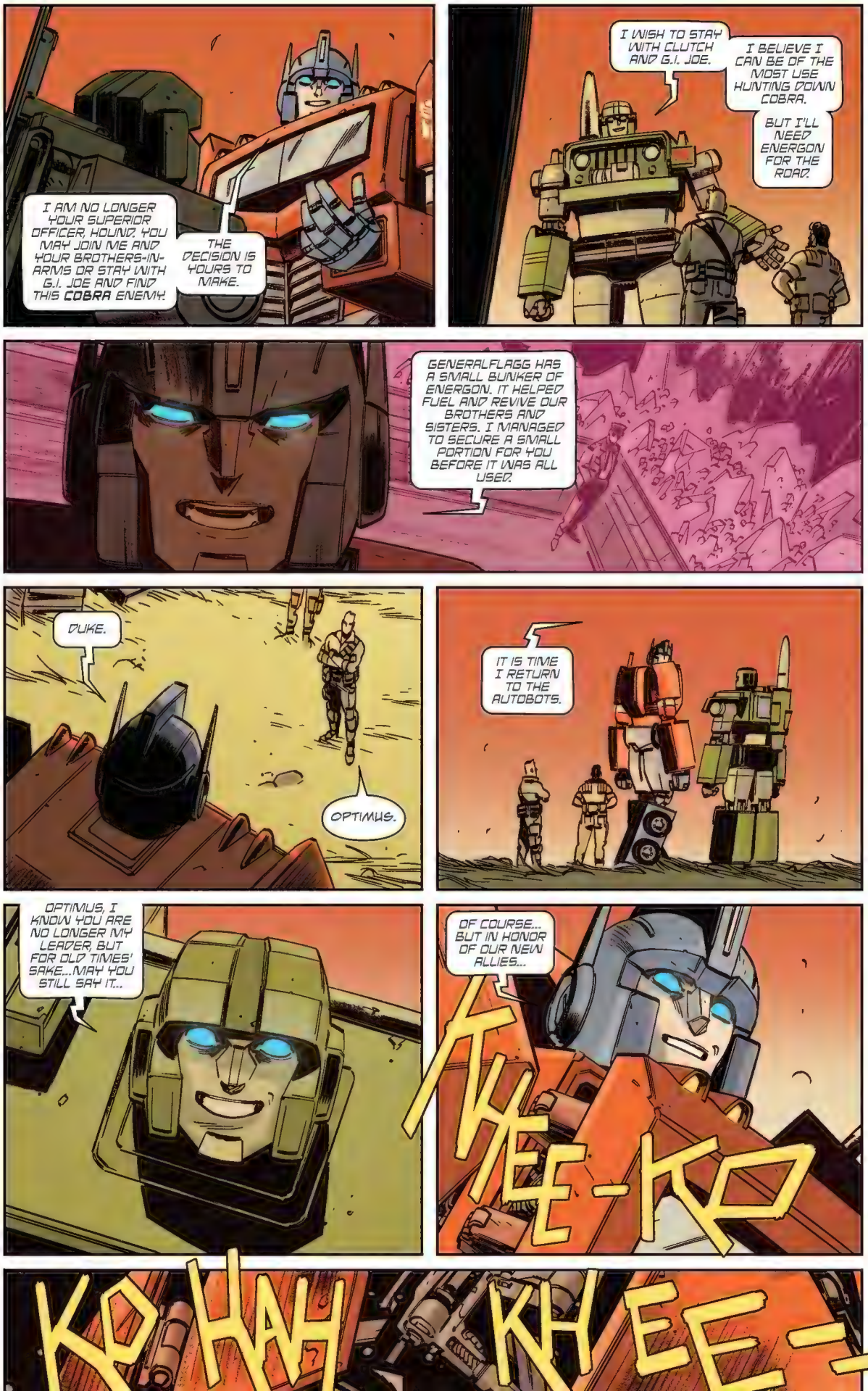
OPTIMUS, WHAT HAPPENED? WHERE IS THE MATRIX OF LEADERSHIP?
IT IS GOOD TO SEE YOU, BROTHER.
MANY OF OUR PEOPLE WENT MISSING IN THE CRASH. I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN YOU WOULD FIND YOUR WAY TO US.
"THE MATRIX CHOOSE ELITA-1, SO SHE COULD LEAD THE WAR ON CYBERTRON."
I CHOSE TO STAY BEHIND HERE IN THE FIELD WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTER. IT WAS IMPERATIVE WE PROTECT THIS WORLD FROM MEGATRON AND THE DECEPTICONS.
BUT, OPTIMUS...
BEING PRIME WAS A GREAT HONOR, BUT MY MISSION HASN'T CHANGED.
HELP OUR PEOPLE AND THIS WORLD.
YOU GAVE UP YOUR COMMAND TO STAY WITH YOUR TEAM?
MAYBE WE HAVE MORE IN COMMON THAN I THOUGHT POSSIBLE...
BUT TELL ME THIS...HAVE YOU EVER ENCOUNTERED A MONSTER CALLED STARSCREAM?
I NEED TO FIND HIM. HE KILLED A GOOD MAN NAMED FROST...HE WAS MY FRIEND.

STARSCREAM IS DEAD.
I'LL TALK TO HIM.
NO. ALLOW ME.
FOR A LONG TIME, WHENEVER I WOULD CLOSE MY EYES, I WOULD SEE STARSCREAM KILL MY FRIEND.
BUT EVER SINCE WE STARTED G.I.JOE...I SAW SOMETHING ELSE...

"I WOULD KILL STARSCREAM MYSELF.
"USE THE TECH THAT COBRA CREATED TO TAKE HIM OUT.
"BUT I WOULDN'T STOP THERE. I'D KILL ALL THE ROBOTS ON EARTH.
"I DIDN'T CARE IF THEY WERE DECEPTICONS...
"OR AUTOBOTS.
"NOTHING COULD STOP ME FROM ELIMINATING YOU AND EVERYTHING LIKE YOU..."
I...I LOST SIGHT OF WHAT MATTERS MOST. I LET MY QUEST FOR REVENGE BLIND ME.
I'VE LOST SO MANY IN THE NAME OF WAR, DUKE. AND... THERE WERE TIMES THAT I FEARED I WOULD LOSE MYSELF, AS WELL. THE HORRORS OF THE BATTLEFIELD ARE HARD ON US ALL.
YOU MISUNDERSTAND WHY I'M TELLING YOU THIS, OPTIMUS.

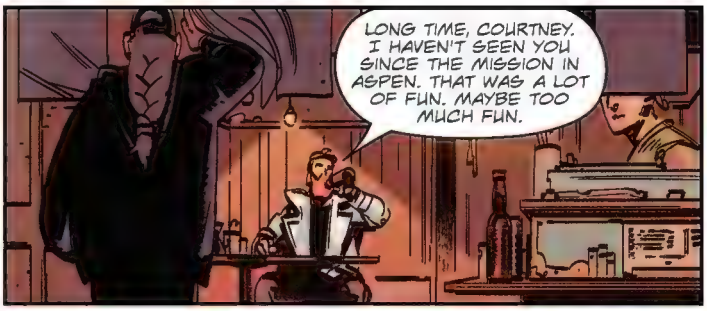
IF YOU'RE LYING... IF YOU BETRAY ME OR ANYONE ON MY TEAM, TRY TO PULL SOME ALIEN TAKEOVER B.S....
I WILL NOT HESITATE TO USE EVERYTHING I HAVE TO DESTROY YOU.
IF IT WERE TO COME TO THAT...
I WOULD FEAR FOR YOUR SAFETY.
HM. I'M GLAD WE HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING.
STARSCREAM MIGHT BE DEAD, BUT THE WAR IS NOT OVER.
IT NEVER IS.
SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE WAR HORSE.
HM. WE DON'T HAVE THAT PHRASE ON CYBERTRON.
LET ME TELL YOU A TALE OF MY WORLD...
WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT?
MY GUESS IS OPTIMUS IS RECITING A PARABLE FROM OUR WORLD THAT IS RELEVANT TO OUR CURRENT SITUATION. SOMETHING ABOUT WAR, HONOR, RESPONSIBILITY.
DUDE, DUKE IS GOING TO EAT THAT UP. I BET HE'S TELLING OPTIMUS ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A LEADER, AND THE HARD CHOICES YOU GOTTA MAKE, BLAH BLAH BLAH.
OH, HERE THEY COME. SHUSH SHUSH SHUSH.
YEAH, YEAH, YEAH.

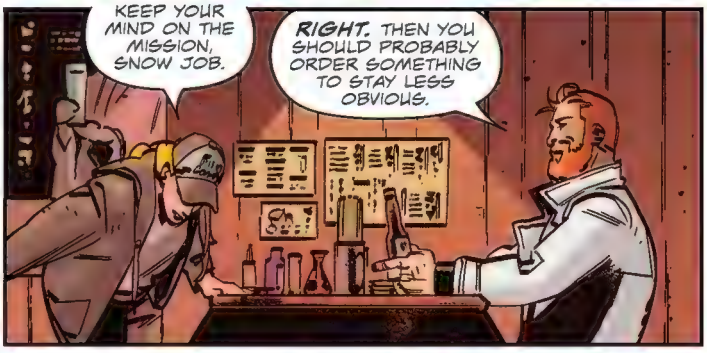

DUKE AND I HAVE COME TO AN UNDERSTANDING. AN ALLIANCE OF SORTS.
WE WILL SHARE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON OUR ENEMIES. BUT OUR MISSIONS WILL STAY INDEPENDENT.
DUKE HAS INFORMED ME OF THIS... COBRA.
I SPENT SOME TIME WITH THEM. THEIR LEADER IS THIS GUY NAMED COBRA COMMANDER.
AND HE IS OBSESSED WITH YOU GUYS.
I SUSPECT HE CONDUCTED EXPERIMENTS ON ONE OF YOURS. HELD THEM CAPTIVE.
INTERESTING. I MUST INVESTIGATE THAT. AS IT WAS NOT ONE OF THE AUTOBOTS...
IN THE MEANTIME, IF YOU NEED ANY HELP DEALING WITH COBRA, DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL US.
AND SAME TO YOU WITH THE DECEPTICONS.
WHAT ABOUT ME, OPTIMUS? WHAT ARE MY ORDERS?


I AM NO LONGER YOUR SUPERIOR OFFICER, HOUND. YOU MAY JOIN ME AND YOUR BROTHERS-IN-ARMS OR STAY WITH G.I. JOE AND FIND THIS COBRA ENEMY.
THE DECISION IS YOURS TO MAKE.
I WISH TO STAY WITH CLUTCH AND G.I. JOE.
I BELIEVE I CAN BE OF THE MOST USE HUNTING DOWN COBRA.
BUT I'LL NEED ENERGON FOR THE ROAD.
GENERALFLAGG HAS A SMALL BUNKER OF ENERGON. IT HELPED FUEL AND REVIVE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS. I MANAGED TO SECURE A SMALL PORTION FOR YOU BEFORE IT WAS ALL USED.
DUKE.
OPTIMUS.
IT IS TIME I RETURN TO THE AUTOBOTS.
OPTIMUS, I KNOW YOU ARE NO LONGER MY LEADER, BUT FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE...MAY YOU STILL SAY IT...
OF COURSE... BUT IN HONOR OF OUR NEW ALLIES...
KHEE-KO
KO HAH KH EE-

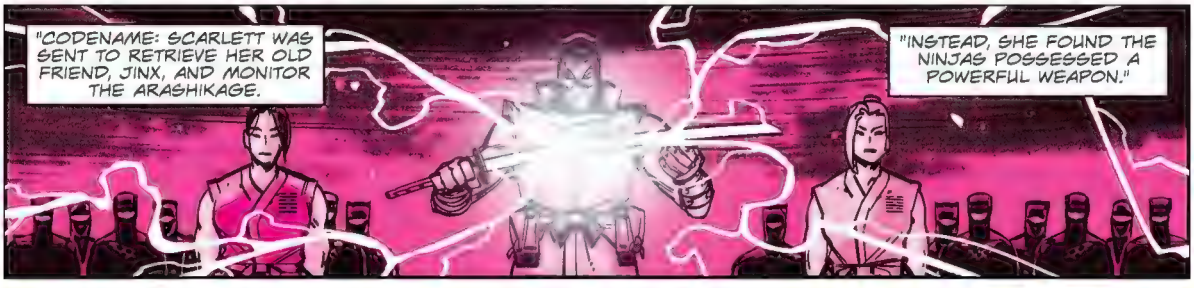
G.I. JOE...
ROLL OUT.
HEY, DUKE, I'M GETTING A LOT OF PINGS ON MY COMMUNICATOR. HAWK IS PISSED WE TOOK OFF.
ARE WE TELLING HIM ABOUT OUR NEW FRIEND?
LET'S JUST KEEP THIS TO OURSELVES...

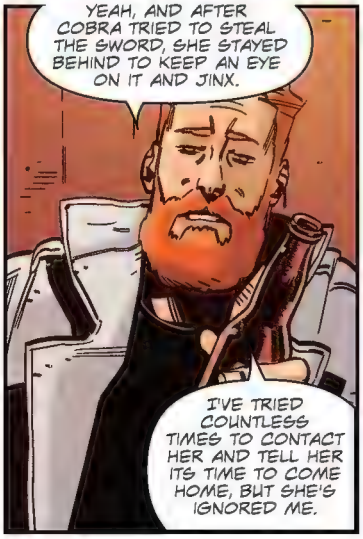
"WE CAN HAVE SECRETS, TOO."


LONG TIME, COURTNEY. I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE THE MISSION IN ASPEN. THAT WAS A LOT OF FUN. MAYBE TOO MUCH FUN.


KEEP YOUR MIND ON THE MISSION, SNOW JOB.
RIGHT. THEN YOU SHOULD PROBABLY ORDER SOMETHING TO STAY LESS OBVIOUS.

I'M NOT HUNGRY.
HAWK SENT STALKER ON A MISSION TO BADHIKISTAN, BUT BEFORE HE TOOK OFF, HE FILLED ME IN...


"CODENAME: SCARLETT WAS SENT TO RETRIEVE HER OLD FRIEND, JINX, AND MONITOR THE ARASHIKAGE.
"INSTEAD, SHE FOUND THE NINJAS POSSESSED A POWERFUL WEAPON."


YEAH, AND AFTER COBRA TRIED TO STEAL THE SWORD, SHE STAYED BEHIND TO KEEP AN EYE ON IT AND JINX.
I'VE TRIED COUNTLESS TIMES TO CONTACT HER AND TELL HER ITS TIME TO COME HOME, BUT SHE'S IGNORED ME.

THAT'S THE THING. HAWK BELIEVES THAT WEAPON IS MADE FROM ENERGON.
WHICH BRINGS ME TO HAWK'S NEW ORDERS...

WHAT... WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

HAWK SAYS WE HAVE TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO BRING YOUR GIRL HOME, OR SHE'S BEING BRANDED A TRAITOR AND ENEMY OF THE STATE.
BOTTOM LINE, SNOW JOB...
WANTED
SHANA O'HARA.
CODENAME: SCARLETT.
DEAD OR ALIVE.

Garage
SCARLETT IS COMING BACK.
WHETHER SHE LIKES IT OR NOT.

STRAIGHT SHOOTERS

DIRECT ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO: GIJOE@SKYBOUND.COM

The moment of Duke and Optimus meeting has been discussed for soooo long-- what did you guys think? Did we nail the assignment? Welcome back to another Straight Shooters, I'm your editor, Ben Abernathy, and joining me is the incomparable Joshua Williamson!

THE TIME HAS COME! DUKE AND OPTIMUS. This issue is a prelude of sorts to a lot of the big pieces between G.I. JOE and TRANSFORMERS in the Energon Universe. There was a part of me that could see Duke and Optimus fighting, but after the events of #19 and the recent TRANSFORMERS issues I knew what this issue needed to be. Once Duke learned that Starscream was dead, the whole tone of the issue shifts, and I wanted to show that scene. To really hit Duke hard with a truth that we and the readers knew but he did not. And by the time this issue hits the stands you'll know all about the latest addition to the Energon Universe…M.A.S.K.!

All right, gang, let's check the mail bag!

ROADBLOCK!

So cool to see him spotlighted in this issue. He was one of my favorite characters as a kid. I LOVED the easter egg, too, when he said, "Don't talk to strangers kids!". In reference to his G.I. Joe PSA from the 80s. If it wasn't for him back then, I might have talked to strangers, who knows.

I loved those PSAs when I was a kid, so I always knew I had to find a place to drop an Easter Egg! Glad you enjoyed it!

I'm getting all the Energon Universe titles and this is my favorite title. You guys are doing an amazing job. I love that the looks of the characters are similar to the GI Joe Classified series of action figures also. My wife Rachel likes to drive me around to the different stores looking for ones I don't have. Thanks sweety, love you. It's fun walking through the toy aisle when I'm 50 years old.

Love how you guys brought in Roadblock. Now just can't wait to see what you do with Snake Eyes!
Dan

Thank you for the support and the letter, Dan, and thanks to Rachel, too, for helping you track down those figures! The Roadblock issue was a blast and now that Night Force is complete…where will we see them again? Hmm…

Who is Snake Eyes? I kid, I kid. But that gag never gets old, I tell ya. And yeah, thank you for the letter and to your wonderful wife for hanging out with you and joining your toy hunts!

The Dreadnok War has been an absolute blast to read! You all as a team are creating so much insane storytelling momentum and I am very happy to be along for the ride. Thank you to all involved for your hard work on this last arc especially. I am a new G.I. Joe fan from the start of the Energon Universe, but you guys have definitely got me shouting, YO JOE!!!

-Cody

Thanks for writing in, Cody! I love that our series helped usher you into this legendary fandom!

NICE! So glad you liked Dreadnok War. I gotta tell you…some of the plans we have for the future will make Dreadnok War look like a small skirmish. You'll see!

Hello to the G.I. Joe Team!!!

This is Philip, and you might have remembered me in Issues 26 & 27 of Transformers. This is my first letter of 2026, my first letter to G.I. Joe (even though I'm still new to G.I. Joe), and my third letter to the Energon Universe Team overall!

Thank you for writing to us and for joining G.I. Joe!

I just finished reading Issue 17, and the reveal of Hound to the rest of the crew was well expected!!! And seeing Duke hold two guns against Hound I'm like "Duke! He's one of the good ones CHILL!" Anyways, I started reading G.I. Joe (After hearing that Optimus and his team will meet Duke and the others in Issue 19 & 20, WHICH IM EXCITED AND NERVOUS FOR!), and of course Void Rivals and all of them are amazing, and I started making theories of what would happen next in each storyline. Keep it up and I can't wait for more issues to be released soon.

Until next time,
Philip

It's good to hear from you, Philip, and we really appreciate your first letter of the year coming to G.I. JOE! I hope you're loving this epic little two-part story.

Don't be nervous! Now that you have #20 in your hands I hope you enjoyed the first meeting of Duke and Optimus. It's going to be an uneasy alliance but a needed one!

Thank you for reading all the Energon titles!

Gentleman and ladies,

I love G.I. Joe so damn much. It is my favorite franchise of all time. It's my favorite GENRE of all time, a tiny genre existing of only G.I. Joe, Metal Gear, and a couple of the Bond films. There is something about military/espionage blown out to a superhero scale that immensely connects with me. However, my love is not an uncritical one. I've skipped most modern comic book takes on the characters. Hama casts a long shadow and it seems that creating something that captures the FEEL of 80s G.I. Joe without feeling like a retread is a very difficult task. The team of Williamson, Reilly and Bellaire have threaded that needle, creating a book that is both fresh and familiar. You all should be quite proud.

Thank you! That means a lot. I knew from the start that I could never outdo Hama, so I didn't try. I took the mythology and twisted it within the Energon Universe. I'm glad you're digging it.

Except. I do not give the slightest crap about Transformers. The degree to which G.I. Joe resonates with me is the degree to which the sister series bounces off of me. I reluctantly accept that they're part of the deal in this telling, but I live in dread of the day when there is a proper capital letter Crossover Event and I'll be expected to buy a book about robots that dress like cars in order to understand what is happening in G.I. Joe. If am ever put in the position where I have to find out what the hell a Void Rival actually is, I'll have to think long and hard about whether it is time to abandon ship. But I'm here in the meantime. The Dreadnok War was great.

All the best,
Isaac

Thanks for the support, Isaac, and I'm sorry to hear the other E.U. titles aren't of interest…but we pride ourselves on delivering books that are a pretty self-contained reading experience so thanks for sticking with us!

Glad you liked Dreadnok War! And like Ben said…we always aim to keep the books as self-contained as possible. When we do the stories that connect, I still approach it from the view that not everyone is reading every issue of the Energon Universe.

Hi there!

I'm Paul G. I'll be real with you guys; Before this comic started, I wasn't into G.I. Joe at all. I knew of the franchise, obviously, but didn't know anybody really outside of Cobra Commander, Snake Eyes and Scarlett. I was a much bigger Transformers fan. So when I heard Skybound was gonna be doing a Joe comic that would tie into Transformers, my inner completionist picked up the Duke comics back in 2024 to see what all the hubbub was about. And boy, am I so glad I did! I gotta say with these comics, you've succeeded in making me into a big ol' Joe fan! So far, Cobra Commander, Baroness, Risk, Clutch, Destro, and Hound are my favorites, and I love how many Transformers references you're weaving into this story while still making it feel like its own thing! This Dreadnok War for instance is absolutely my favorite arc you've done so far! Your Cobra Commander comics were my favorite G.I. Joe series in the EU prior, large in part due to just how BRUTAL Cobra Commander was in that and how much fun the Dreadnoks were as villains! Seeing CC here get pushed to his very limit, tortured, beaten, nearly ripping out Buzzsaw's throat back in #15 for instance, I just love it!! Really hope we get to see more of "feral" Cobra Commander in the future, he's the star of these comics as far as I'm concerned!

I 100% love Cobra Commander. And I'm glad readers like you have responded to our take on him. It felt like a natural step to the character and I will continue to give him some of the coolest damn moments in the series. You'll see. It's going to get wild.

On top of that...Where is Scarlett?? Her miniseries was incredible too, and it's kinda a letdown that she has yet to join the main cast of Joes when Destro got his comic to shine and now he's in too. I wanna see her, Jinx and Storm Shadow show up soooooo badly! That's gonna be it for me though! Super excited for #18 next to see what's going on with Night Force!

Yo, Joe!
Paul

It's good to hear from you, Paul, and this letter left a big smile on my face (as I agree on every point). And I'm sure you know by now but next month, with #21, we'll be paying the Arashikage a visit ;) This is all part of our master plan mwaha.

Yup, like Ben said…just wait until next month for Scarlett's return!

And that's a wrap for this month's letters! Keep them coming in (and please note if they're okay to print) and buckle in for the next issue…

-Ben

Next month is…an intense issue. Get ready for some of the wildest action sequences we've had in the title yet! Thank you for writing in and continuing to read our G.I. JOE series!

-Josh

ENERGON EXPERIENCE

This issue had everything but the Energon Universe kitchen sink! In time, it will become clear just how important the events of this issue are to our 2026 plans, but I hope you enjoyed our special recipe featuring explosions, action, conversations, and...ninjas?!

Ben!

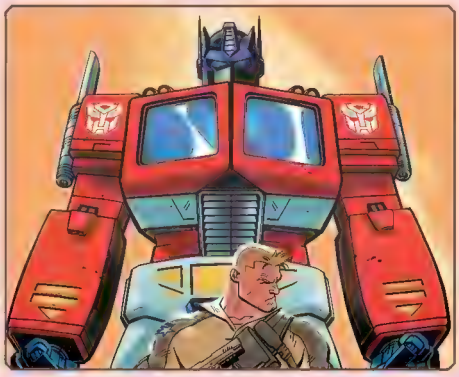
Ben Abernathy, Executive Editor

CHARACTER SPOTLIGHT

WHO: Scrap-Iron

Mercenary and explosives expert

WHAT: While currently employed by Cobra, the obsessive and violent man known as Scrap-Iron won't shy away from a contract killing if it means he gets to blow something up!



MORE THAN MEETS THE G.I.?!

Optimus and Duke are renowned warriors and leaders but haven't met in the Energon Universe...until now! Both have been through some hard times recently but this meeting--three years in the making--did NOT disappoint! Maybe next time Duke will be shirtless and Optimus have with the Matrix of Leadership!

CREATOR SPOTLIGHT

Q: We've gotten a lot of positive feedback on this arc's portrait covers by Ben Oliver, so I thought I'd invite Ben to answer a question for us this month!

Ben: Who was your favorite G.I. JOE character to illustrate and why?

A: Ripper was my favourite G.I. JOE cover to paint, mainly for his missing tooth and awesome glasses.

THE ENERGON UNIVERSE CHECKLIST

- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #40 AVAILABLE 3/11
- ☐ G.I. JOE #20 AVAILABLE 3/18
- ☐ VOID RIVALS #28 AVAILABLE 3/25

EXPLORE THE ENERGON UNIVERSE

ROBERT KIRKMAN'S ALL-NEW **TRANSFORMERS** AND **G.I. JOE** SHARED UNIVERSE CONTINUES EVERY MONTH IN THESE TITLES!

PRE-ORDER UPCOMING RELEASES WITH YOUR LOCAL COMIC SHOP NOW!

skybound.com | @skyboundent | @skyboundent

VOID RIVALS, TRANSFORMERS, G.I. JOE and all related characters are trademarks of Hasbro and are used with permission. © 2026 Hasbro. All rights reserved. SKYBOUND and all related images are owned by Skybound, LLC. IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

ROBERT KIRKMAN
LUDO LULLABI
TRANSFORMERS
image
#31
D.N.A
ON SALE APRIL 8

JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
TOM REILLY
LEE LOUGHRIDGE
G.I. JOE
image
#21
ON SALE APRIL 15

3V3 TAG FIGHTER BASED ON THE HIT COMIC!

INVINCIBLE VS

APRIL 30 2026

XBOX SERIES X|S PS5 STEAM

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL COMIC SHOP TO ORDER THE DIRECT MARKET EXCLUSIVE EDITION WITH ART BY CORY WALKER!

MATURE 17+
M
ESRB

© 2026 Skybound Game Studios, Inc. Based on the comic book Invincible by Robert Kirkman, Cory Walker and Ryan Ottley. SKYBOUND™, SKYBOUND GAMES™, QUARTER UP™ and any related logos are registered or otherwise protected trademarks of Skybound, LLC. INVINCIBLE™, INVINCIBLE VS™ and any related logos are registered or otherwise protected trademarks of Robert Kirkman, Inc. All rights reserved.

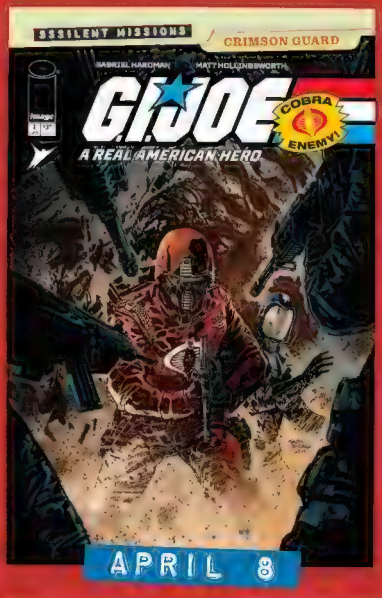
SKYBOUND

QUARTER UP
A SKYBOUND STUDIO

COBRA TAKES OVER THE SILENT MISSIONS

IN CELEBRATION OF THE **G.I. JOE: A REAL AMERICAN HERO #21** SILENT INTERLUDE THAT CHANGED COMICS FOREVER – **FIVE** VILLAINOUS STAND-ALONE SILENT STORIES FROM **SUPERSTAR** CREATIVE TEAMS!

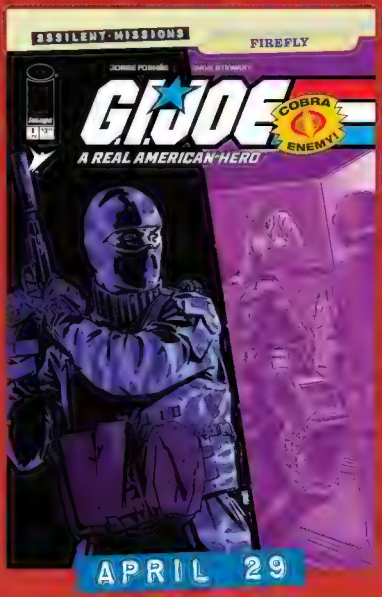
APRIL 1



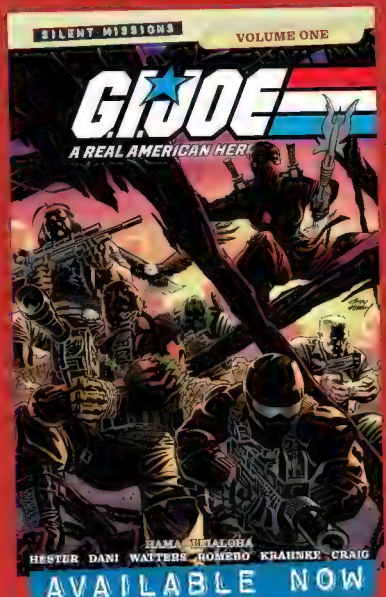
APRIL 8

APRIL 15

APRIL 22



APRIL 29



AVAILABLE NOW

SKYBOUND.COM

@SKYBOUNDENT

ON SALE WEEKLY

APRIL 2026

G.I. JOE AND HASBRO AND ALL RELATED TRADEMARKS AND LOGOS ARE TRADEMARKS OF HASBRO, INC. ©2026 HASBRO.
SKYBOUND AND ALL RELATED IMAGES ARE OWNED BY SKYBOUND, LLC. IMAGE COMICS® AND ITS LOGOS ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS AND COPYRIGHTS OF IMAGE COMICS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

GET THE FIRST 300 ISSUES OF

G.I. JOE
A REAL AMERICAN HERO

IN EXCLUSIVE HARDCOVER COMPENDIUMS!

CHOOSE YOUR SIDE!

Back the G.I. JOE: A Real American Hero campaign for exclusive access to Joe and Cobra-themed box sets containing four hardcover compendiums each.

BOX SET 1

BOX SET 2

BOX SET 1

BOX SET 2

Knowing is half the battle, so scan the QR Code for more information NOW!

ONLY AVAILABLE ON KICKSTARTER

G.I. JOE and HASBRO and all related trademarks and logos are trademarks of Hasbro, Inc. ©2026 Hasbro. SKYBOUND and all related images are owned by Skybound, LLC. IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

SOME BONDS CAN'T BE BURIED.
CORPSE KNIGHT™
A bold new horror series from MICHAEL CHAVES (THE CONJURING UNIVERSE) and MATTHEW ROBERTS (UNIVERSAL MONSTERS: CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON LIVES!)
UNEARTH THE HORROR
APRIL 22, 2026
CORPSE KNIGHT™ © 2026 SKYBOUND, LLC. SKYBOUND and all related images are owned by Skybound, LLC.
IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.
image

COLLECT ALL THESE EXCITING ENERGON UNIVERSE COVERS

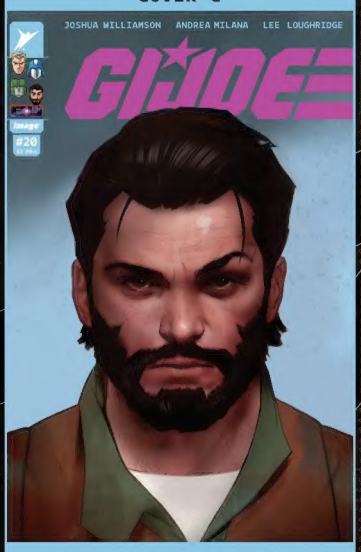
COVER A

TOM REILLY

COVER B

JOSHUA CASSARA
& ROMULO FAJARDO JR.

COVER C



BEN OLIVER

COVER D

TONČI ZONJIĆ

COVER E

JORGE CORONA
& MIKE SPICER

COVER F

ANDREA MILANA

AVAILABLE NOW WHEREVER COMICS ARE SOLD

Licensed by:

G.I. JOE and HASBRO and all related trademarks and logos are trademarks of Hasbro, Inc. ©2026 Hasbro. All rights reserved. SKYBOUND and all related images are owned by Skybound, LLC. IMAGE COMICS and all related images are owned by Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

MEPHISTO